

REMARKS

The Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Zand for the courtesy and cooperation extended to the Applicant's undersigned representative during the telephone interview of July 21, 2005. The present amendments and remarks are submitted in accordance with the substance of the interview. Further, a Summary of the Interview will be submitted by the Applicant upon receiving the Examiner Interview Summary Record.

As an administrative matter, the Applicant notes that a Power of Attorney was filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 11, 2005, and a courtesy copy thereof was transmitted via facsimile on July 25, 2005. Thus, the Applicant notes that the undersigned representative is an attorney-of- record.

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested. Claims 1-11, 16-28, and 33-36 remain pending for examination.

Claims 1-9, 16, 20-26, and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by Diffie, *et al.* (U.S. Patent 5,371,794; hereafter "Diffie") in view of Shanton (U.S. Patent 5,369,702; hereafter "Shanton"). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, and further requests that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

As the Applicant submitted in its previous response of March 11, 2005, and as acknowledged in the present rejection, Diffie does not teach or suggest: authorization information to reflect a relative security level for a user of the mobile computing unit, as recited in Claims 1 and 21; an address being received based on the asserted identity of the user, as recited in Claims 16 and 33; or an encryption key being generated based on a relative security level accorded to the asserted identity of the user, as recited in Claim 20.

Further, as discussed during the telephone interview of July 21, 2005, the Applicant submits that neither Diffie nor Shanton teach or suggest: credentials to assert a

unique machine identifier *and* authorization information to reflect credentials for a user of the mobile computing unit, as amended in Claims 1 and 21; and credentials used to authenticate an asserted identity of the user, as amended in Claims 16, 20, and 33.

That is, the Applicant respectfully submits that Shanton does not provide any suggestion or motivation to one of ordinary skill to combine the reference teachings in such a manner that would render the rejected claims obvious.

For example, the rejection cites the Abstract of Shanton, "where every object or resource are labeled by attributes and algorithm attributes (security level) to achieve a multi level security." However, the Abstract of Shanton merely refers to a standard object tracking mechanism that allows users to distribute multiple encrypted embedded objects to other individuals in a single encrypted object. Combining the Abstract with Diffie still fails to teach or suggest authorization information to reflect credentials for a user of the mobile computing unit, as amended in Claims 1 and 21, or credentials used to authenticate an asserted identity of the user, as amended in Claims 16, 20, and 33.

The rejection further cites Shanton, Fig. 3 and its associated text. The Applicant respectfully submits that the web of encrypted objects described (Shanton, col. 11, lines 18-30) in relation to Fig. 3 is completely silent with regard to at least the aforementioned features of Claims 1, 16, 20, 21, and 33. Notably, Shanton's description of encrypted objects is silent with any user-specific credentials, as in amended Claims 1, 16, 20, 21, and 33, therefore providing no motivation for the proposed combination of references to one of ordinary skill.

The rejection further cites Shanton, Figs. 6 and 8 and associated text. The Applicant respectfully submits that Figs. 6 and 8 and their associated text are silent with regard to any user-specific security features, as in Claims 1, 16, 20, 21, and 33, as well. The "associated text" of Figs. 6 and 8, in its entirety, references a Distributed Cryptographic Object Method ("DCOM"), as follows: "FIG. 6 demonstrates the use of the DCOM in conjunction with the dynamic structure of a sample organization. Since the DCOM is dynamic in nature, it can adapt to any organizational size or type (For example,

see FIGS. 7 and 8)," (Shanton, col. 11, lines 55–59). The Applicant submits that such description would still leave one of ordinary skill wanting for some teaching or description that would motivate the combination of Diffie and Shanton, in relation to presently rejected Claims 1, 16, 20, 21, and 33.

The rejection continues by citing Shanton, col. 2, lines 31–57. The Applicant submits that this description also fails to teach or suggest authorization information to reflect credentials for a user of the mobile computing unit, as amended in Claims 1 and 21, or credentials used to authenticate an asserted identity of the user, as amended in Claims 16, 20, and 33.. Specifically, the cited portion of Shanton describes a secure labeling technique in which multiple users have a same decryption key (col. 2, lines 53 and 54) are provided access in accordance with their location (col. 2, lines 54 and 55). Such description fails to teach or suggest any user-specific credentials, as in the rejected claims. Although Shanton concludes this discussion with, "Access may be limited to particular people as well," the statement lacking any substantive description fails to motivate one of ordinary skill into combining Shanton with Diffie, in light of the user-specific credentials of Claims 1, 16, 20, 21, and 33.

Lastly, the rejection cites Shanton, col. 11, lines 40–48. However, this description pertaining to Fig. 3 of Shanton also fails to provide sufficient motivation for the proposed combination with Diffie. That is, DCOM unravels the nested encrypted object according to organizational data embedded therein. There is no teaching or suggestion of authorization information to reflect credentials for a user of the mobile computing unit, as amended in Claims 1 and 21, or credentials used to authenticate an asserted identity of the user, as amended in Claims 16, 20, and 33.. Therefore, Shanton does not provide sufficient basis for the proposed combination with Diffie.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness, and therefore all of Claims 1–9, 16, 20–26 and 33 are distinguishable over Diffie and Shanton for at least the reasons set forth above. It is

requested that the corresponding rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 10, 11, 17–19, 27, 28, and 34–36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by Diffie in view of Shanton and in further view of Ramasubramani, *et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,233,577; hereafter “Ramasubramani”). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection as well, and further requests that this rejection also be reconsidered and withdrawn.

For at least the reasons set forth above regarding the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), it is respectfully submitted that the proposed combination of Diffie and Shanton is fundamentally deficient in relation to the presently rejected claims, which depend from any of independent Claims 1, 16, and 21, which are distinguished over Diffie and Stanton above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Ramasubramani does not compensate for the deficiencies of Diffie and Shanton discussed above with regard to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Therefore, the proposed combination of Diffie, Shanton, and Ramasubramani fails to render the presently rejected claims obvious, and thus the outstanding rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) should be withdrawn.

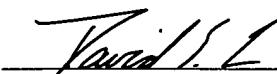
The remaining references of record have been considered. It is respectfully submitted that they do not compensate for the deficiencies of the references utilized in rejecting the pending claims, particularly in view of the current amendments to the claims.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Early and forthright issuance of a Notice of Allowability is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

Microsoft Corporation

Dated: July 29, 2005

  
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